



HELPER & BAKER

NO.17 • DEC'88 • \$1.75/\$2.50CAN • SUGGESTED FOR MATURE READERS

THE SHADOW

TM



BODY & SOUL • Part 4



WITH JOHNNY DC

Several dozen freelancers trooped into Manhattan this summer to listen to a talk given by **HARVEY KURTZMAN**, one of the grandmasters of comics. Harvey's career spans the decades and includes an impressive run at DC comics, including *Frontline Combat* and *Mad* (which he created). Currently teaching in New York, Harvey has been inspiring dozens of young artists every year and he offered some observations about the business to those present. Afterwards, everyone had a chance to chat a little with Harvey at a reception, hosted by our president and publisher, **Jenette Kahn** . . .

The DC team has been on the road again. In mid-June a cadre of editors and creators were in Cleveland to attend the Superman Celebration. It all began with a parade through town with **Mike Carlin** and **Jerry Ordway** in an open car with others riding a double-decker bus, **Curt Swan**, **Mark Waid**, **Juffe Schwartz**, **Mike W. Barr** and others also attended the weekend long convention congratulating the Man of Steel on thriving for 50 years . . . A few weeks later, everyone attacked Chicago, en masse, for the annual Chicago Comicon. Led by Executive Editor **Olek Giordano**, a staggering number of editors, writers and artists appeared at the DC booth and joined in on panel discussions and chatted it up with fans from around the country. To the staffers, however, one of the best times was the pre-con party at the Tap & Growler, a local spot located by **John Ostrander** and **Kim Yale** . . . More amazing, everyone got to meet the renowned letter writer **T.M. Maple**. Apparently, Mr. Maple decided to celebrate his tenth year behind the typewriter by revealing his true name. So, with little fanfare, he began signing his letters **Jim Burke**. Several staffers and creators posed for pictures with Jim just to prove he exists . . .

Word from Hollywood has it that **Michael Keaton** and **Jack Nicholson** will confront one another in **Tim Burton's** feature film, *Batman*. Currently shooting in England, the feature stars Keaton as the Darknight Detective while Nicholson dons whiteface and green hair as his nemesis, The Joker . . . Down in Florida, the new Disney-MGM Studios has been chosen as the sight for production on the new *Superboy* TV series. **Fred Freiberger**, who previously worked on *Star Trek* and *Space: 1999*, will serve as story editor and he was up at the DC offices recently, consulting with staffers on ways to keep the spirit of the comics alive on screen . . . **John McTiernan**, the director of the current *Die Hard*, will helm *Sgt. Rock*, starring **Arnold Schwarzenegger**. McTiernan and Annie last teamed up for 1987's smash *Predator* . . .

John Byrne was so interested in the Atom vs. Chronos storyline concocted by his old buddy **Roger Sien** that John agreed to draw an issue, #6 on sale next month. Following in John's footsteps, **Graham Nolan** will debut as the series' new penciller beginning with issue #7, following Graham's three issue run on *Doom Patrol* . . .

Lee Falk, creator of *The Phantom*, came to the DC offices recently to talk about continuing the

comic book adventures of the Ghost Who Walks. Meeting with editors **Mike Gold** and **Bob Greenberger**, Lee discussed the recently completed mini-series and approved general outlines for an on-going feature. He also chatted a bit about the upcoming feature film of *The Phantom* to be produced in Australia based on a new story from Lee. The new, monthly *Phantom* will debut in early 1989 and boast the scrippling of **Mark Verheiden**. Mark's first DC assignment was the forthcoming *Secret Drigin* of the Martian Manhunter, and he follows up with a special 129 page team-up extravaganza for *Action Comics Weekly* #635, when Green Lantern, Superman, Black Canary and "Chop Chop" meet. Drawing that one will be **Eduardo Barreto** and **John Nyberg** . . .

Ken Steacy, who has been painting loads of covers for us this last year, takes enough time off to sit behind his drawing table to do the aforementioned *Secret Drigin* of the Martian Manhunter . . .

Correcting an error from two columns back, **Dennis Janke** will be inking *Adventures of Superman* over **Jerry Ordway's** pencils. Jerry is just too darn busy writing and pencilling but the stuff looks terrific so who's to complain? . . .

Tom Grindberg is back at DC and just signed on to pencil six issues of *Firestorm*, giving longtime penciller **Joe Brozowski** a breather. Tom gets to the series in time for *Invasion* and gets to draw a team-up of *Firestorm*, *Firehawk*, *Power Girl* and *Starman*—leading into *Starman* #5 . . . Joe is not going to be idle since he will immediately begin pencilling a *Catwoman* mini-series written by **Mindy Newell**. **Barry Kitson**, the penciller originally announced, had to leave in order to draw a new top secret project that will debut in early 1989 and is worth waiting for . . .

Mike Collins and his wife had a baby girl, **Bethan Marie**, in June and all are well . . .

Dick Rockwell, **Milton Caniff's** longtime assistant, has drawn a cover for *Action Comics Weekly* and helped out **Terry Beatty** by finishing pencils over his layouts on *Wild Dog* for issues #619-621. Terry returns in time to fully pencil the concluding chapter for #622 . . . **Dan Jurgens**, resting up after finishing off *Flash Gordon*, writes and pencils a *Secret Drigin* of *Booster Gold* and then co-plots the *Adventures of Superman Annual* with **Jerry Ordway**. Dan will then write and pencil the action-laden tale . . .

Shawn McManus was last seen drawing *OMEGAMEN* for us and then went to California to work in the animation business. Shawn decided the time had come to return to comics and was immediately offered *DR. FATE*. The new on-going series will debut in a few months with **J.M. DeMatteis** writing, continuing the development of the new *Dr. Fate* and its two component parts—**Eric** and **Linda Strauss** . . . J.M. is also about to begin writing the monthly domestic adventures of *MISTER MIRACLE* with art by *MILLENNIUM's* **Ian Gibson** . . .

More . . . next month!

—Johnny DC

DC LIST THIS WEEK

NEW TEEN TITANS: THE JUOAS CONTRACT

The greatest saga in the Titans' history is collected in this 192 page collection featuring the Terminator and the betrayal of Terra! ■

COSMIC ODSSEY 2

"Disaster" finds the heroes on Earth and New Genesis on four different worlds, trying to stop the Anti-Life Equation. ★►

NEW TITANS 50

George Pérez returns with a five-part story to explore 'Who is Wonder Girl?' and the magic continues. ◆►

THE SHADOW 17

The Avenger returns and is recruited to lead the Shadow's agents as their new master. ◆►▲

ACTION COMICS WEEKLY 622

Ron Frenz serves up a Green Lantern cover while inside we have *Blackhawk*, *Deadman*, *Secret Six*, *Wild Dog* and *Superman*. ●

ANIMAL MAN 4

The ultimate showdown between Animal Man and B'Wana Beast at the San Diego Zoo! ■►

FLASH GORDON 7

There's an alliance, at last, to overthrow Ming but the Merciless One isn't going to take defeat kindly. ■►

SWAMP THING 79

To gain revenge against Lex Luthor for his murder, Swamp Thing must first get past Superman. ■►▲

DOOM PATROL 15

Animal-Vegetable-Mineral man and General Immortus return just as the Patrol find the Chiet! ●

POWER OF THE ATOM 5

Chronos is back and the Atom needs the JLI's help, but no one is one home except Maxwell Lord. ●

STARMAN 3

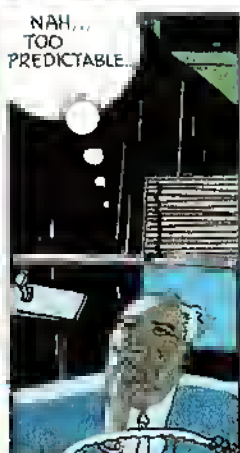
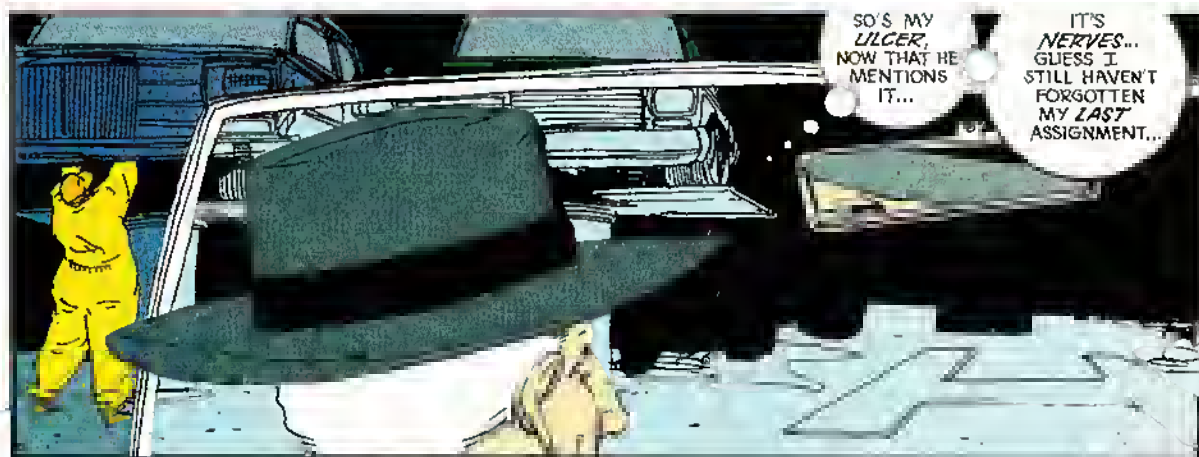
Will Payton has a job at last, but may lose it—and his life—if Bolt has anything to say about it. ●

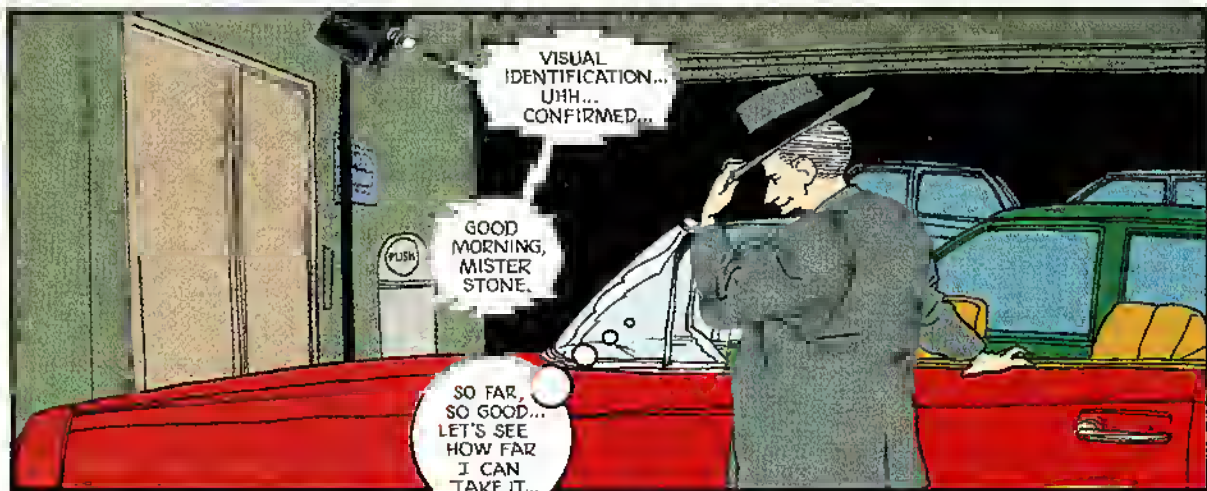
ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN 447

Gangbuster takes on Morgan Edge! An assassination attempt on the life of Lex Luthor! Where is Superman? ●

LEGEND

- Standard Format
- New Format
- ◆ Deluxe Format
- Available at Select Outlets
- ★ Prestige Format
- Graphic Novel
- ▢ Collected Edition
- ▲ Suggested for Mature Readers





VISUAL
IDENTIFICATION...
UHH...
CONFIRMED...

GOOD
MORNING,
MISTER
STONE.

SO FAR,
SO GOOD...
LET'S SEE
HOW FAR
I CAN
TAKE IT...



...SEE IF I'VE
STILL GOT
THE OLD
MAGIC
TOUCH...



GOOD
MORNING,
MISTER
STONE.

'MORNING,
KIDDO...

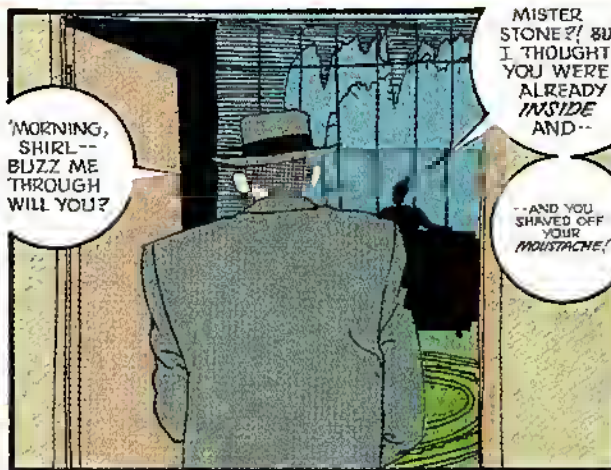


GOOD
MORNING,
MISTER
STONE.

MISTER
STONE--
I'M FEELING
A LITTLE *SICK*
TODAY, AND
I WAS WONDERING--

CERTAINLY,
MY DEAR--
TAKE THE DAY--
TAKE THE *WEEK!*
BE MY GUEST!

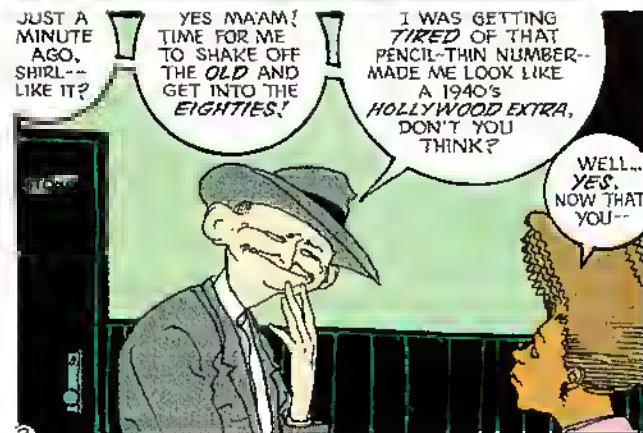
"KIDDO?"



'MORNING,
SHIRL--
BUZZ ME
THROUGH
WILL YOU?

MISTER
STONE?! BUT
I THOUGHT
YOU WERE
ALREADY
INSIDE
AND--

--AND YOU
SHAVED OFF
YOUR
MUSTACHE!



JUST A
MINUTE
AGO,
SHIRL--
LIKE IT?

YES MAAM!
TIME FOR ME
TO SHAKE OFF
THE *OLD* AND
GET INTO THE
EIGHTIES!

I WAS GETTING
TIRED OF THAT
PENCIL-THIN NUMBER--
MADE ME LOOK LIKE
A 1940'S
HOLLYWOOD EXTRA,
DON'T YOU
THINK?

WELL...
YES,
NOW THAT
YOU--



GOOD! GOOD!
I *ADMIRE*
HONESTY
IN MY
EMPLOYEES!

NOW, THEN--
LET'S GET
TO *WORK*,
SHALL
WE--?

EH?



GOOD GOOD--!!!

I BELIEVE
YOU CALLED
FOR ME,
REGGIE--

-- AND WHEN
REG STONE
CALLS--

**The
Avenger™**
COMES RUNNING!

BODY AND SOUL, PART 4: NIGHT OF THE AVENGER

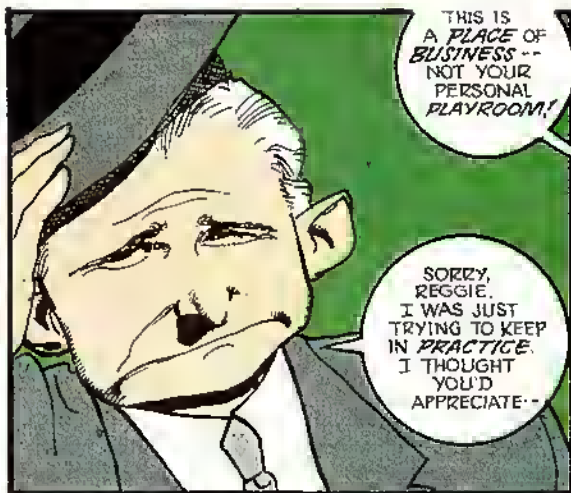
A TALE OF MISTAKEN IDENTITY BY
ANDY HELFER WORDS KYLE BAKER PICTURES BOB LAPPAN LETTERS TOM ZIUKO COLORS RENÉE WITTERSTAETTER ASSISTANT EDITS MIKE CARLIN EDITS

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OH.
IT'S YOU.

FOR HEAVEN'S
SAKE, RICHARD!
WHEN ARE YOU
GOING TO STOP
PLAYING *GAMES*
AND
GROW UP?



THIS IS
A *PLACE* OF
BUSINESS--
NOT YOUR
PERSONAL
PLAYROOM!

SORRY,
REGGIE.
I WAS JUST
TRYING TO KEEP
IN *PRACTICE*.
I THOUGHT
YOU'D
APPRECIATE--



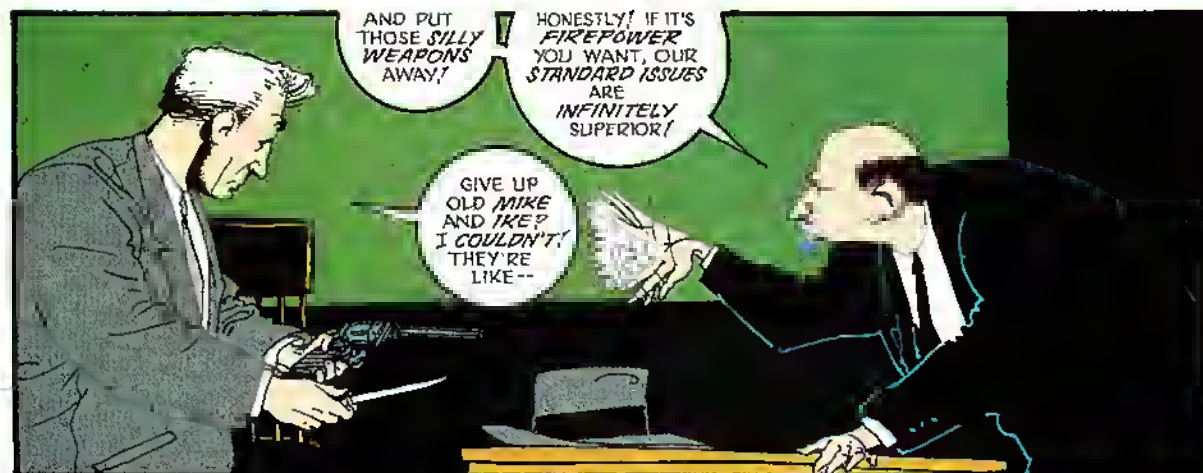
--WHAT? MAKING
MY SECRETARY THINK
SHE'D TAKEN LEAVE
OF HER SENSES?
GIVING BABS
THE WEEK OFF?

I GUESS
I DID
GET A LITTLE
CARRIED
AWAY...



WELL...JUST
FORGET IT.
I SHOULD BE
USED TO IT
BY NOW...

THANKS,
REGGIE--



AND PUT
THOSE *SILLY*
WEAPONS
AWAY!

HONESTLY! IF IT'S
FIREPOWER
YOU WANT, OUR
STANDARD ISSUES
ARE
INFINITELY
SUPERIOR!

GIVE UP
OLD MIKE
AND IKE?
I COULDN'T!
THEY'RE
LIKE--



YES, YES, I *KNOW*--
"LIKE OLD FRIENDS!"
WELL, KEEP THEM
IF YOU *MUST*--
BUT I *DO* WISH
YOU'D STOP
REFERRING TO THEM
BY NAMES!

LITTLE THINGS
LIKE *THAT*
MAKE ME *WORRY*
ABOUT YOU,
RICHARD.



NOW, PLEASE
TRY TO PAY
ATTENTION.
YOU'VE A JOB
TO DO...

GOOD.
I COULD USE
THE MONEY...THE
COSTUME SHOP
ISN'T AS
PROFITABLE
AS IT
USED TO BE...

...BUT, GEE,
REGGIE... I
HOPE THIS ONE
ISN'T LIKE THE
LAST JOB. THAT
GOT A LITTLE TOO
MESSY
FOR MY--



IT'S
WORSE,
I'M AFRAID,
RICHARD.

THIS ONE'S
A *COP*
KILLER.

NOW THIS IS ALL
STRICTLY
CONFIDENTIAL...
S.O.P. FOR YOU
I SUPPOSE, BUT
I WANT TO
WARN YOU...

THE CONTRACT
COMES FROM
POLICE
COMMISSIONER
MARX
HIMSELF.

LIKE
MANY OF OUR
CLIENTS, MARX
IS LOOKING FOR AN
EXPEDIENT
SOLUTION
TO HIS
PROBLEM...

...AND IN
THIS CASE,
I MUST
CONCUR
WITH HIM

SCUM
LIKE THIS KILLER
DON'T **DESERVE**
OUR LEGAL SYSTEM.
THIS **INOCULATOR**
FELLOW MUST BE
HUNTED DOWN AND
KILLED LIKE THE
WILD ANIMAL
HE IS.

IT WON'T BE EASY.
HE SEEMS TO BE
ALMOST **INVISIBLE...**
WE HAVE
JUST THE ONE
PHOTOGRAPH
OF HIM...

IT WAS
TAKEN BY
SURVEILLANCE
CAMERAS
AT THE
REINHARDT
INSTITUTE.

IT HASN'T
BEEN RELEASED
TO THE PRESS.
THE INSTITUTE'S
BEEN HAVING
P.R. PROBLEMS.
LATELY. ANOTHER
LOG ON THE FIRE
IS THE
LAST THING
THEY NEED.

HOWEVER,
ACCORDING TO THEIR
INTERNAL SECURITY,
THIS FELLOW
SOMEHOW BROKE INTO
THE INSTITUTE AND
STOLE A VARIETY OF
SERIO-INOCULATION
DEVICES...

...THE
VERY SAME
DEVICES HE'S
BEEN USING
TO KILL HIS
SELECTED
VICTIMS.

CLASS INSTRUCTIONS ARE A DRAFT
WITH YIRO GONE INOCULATING

AT FIRST, HE TARGETED
ONLY THE **CRIMINAL**
ELEMENT, SO THERE
WAS LITTLE CONCERN...
IN FACT, HE SEEMED
TO BE BUILDING UP
QUITE A PUBLIC
FOLLOWING...

I IMAGINE
HE MIGHT HAVE
PARLAYED HIS REP
INTO A NICE
POLITICAL
CAREER...UNTIL
HE WENT
BAD...

WE'RE STILL
NOT CERTAIN
WHY HE
KILLED THOSE
COPS...BUT
HE DID.

THEY'RE
DEAD,
AND HE'S
ON THE
STREETS.



FIND HIM.

ELIMINATE
HIM.

THE KILL PAYS
TEN THOUSAND
DOLLARS. WILL
THAT BE SUFFICIENT?

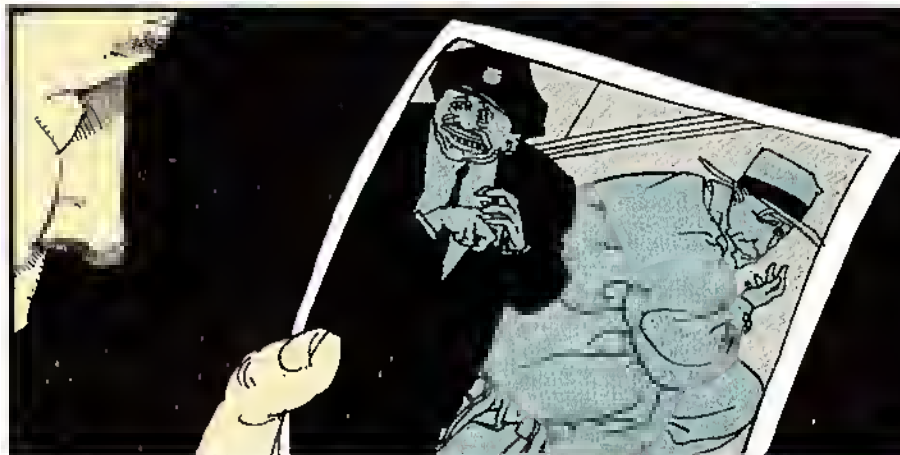
SURE...BUT...IS THIS ALL YOU'VE GOT? I MEAN...FINDING ONE GUY IN NEW YORK CITY WON'T BE EASY--

WELL, HE *HAS* DYED HIS SKIN *GREEN*--NOT MANY GREEN MEN WANDERING THE STREETS. I'D VENTURE TO SAY...

PLUS THE FACT THAT HE WAS *INJURED* IN HIS SHOOTOUT WITH THE *POLICE* OUGHT TO SLOW HIM DOWN A BIT...

IF *THAT* ISN'T ENOUGH, THERE'S ALSO *THIS*...

A WEEK OR SO AFTER THE INOCULATOR BROKE INTO THE STORE ROOM, ANOTHER MAN WAS TAPED EXAMINING THE CRIME SCENE.



WE'RE NOT CERTAIN *WHO* HE IS, BUT FROM HIS *ATTIRE* I'D GUESS HE WAS SOME KIND OF *PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR*, EH?

IF HE'S LOOKING FOR OUR TARGET TOO, HE PROBABLY HAS A GOOD *HEAD START* ON YOU... FIND HIM AND *PROD* HIM A BIT... HE COULD BE OF SOME *HELP*...

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS, REGGIE... THIS ONE DOESN'T EXACTLY LOOK LIKE A *CAKE WALK*...

IF IT *WAS*, RICHARD, WE WOULDN'T HAVE HIRED *YOU*...

TAKE A MOMENT TO UNDERSTAND THE DELICATE *POLITICAL* NATURE OF THIS SITUATION.

THE *PUBLIC* DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT THE POLICE MURDERS YET--*THEY* STILL BELIEVE THE INOCULATOR'S FORAYS ARE RESTRICTED TO THE *UNDERWORLD*...

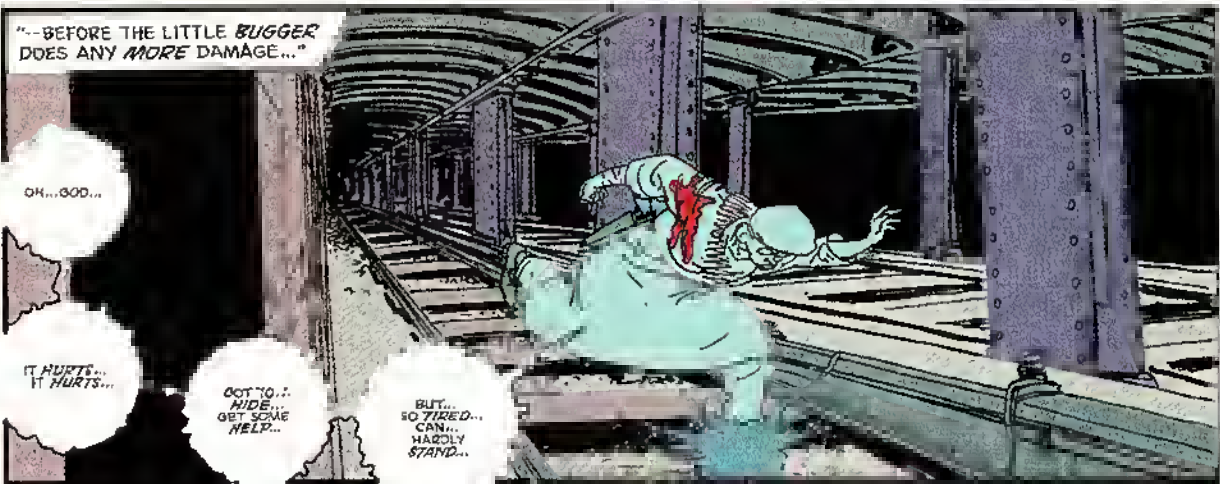
VIOLENT CRIME IS ON THE WANE EVER SINCE THE NEWS TABLOIDS BEGAN PROMOTING THE INOCULATOR AS THE *SHADOW'S* SUCCESSOR.

AND NO ONE WANTS A *RE-ENACTMENT* OF THE *CRIME WAVE* THAT OVERWHELMED THIS TOWN AFTER THE *SHADOW'S* DEATH BECAME KNOWN.



THE COMMISSIONER WANTS THE INOCULATOR OUT OF THE PICTURE-- BUT THE PUBLIC MUST NEVER DISCOVER HE IS DEAD--

--*YOUR* JOB, RICHARD, IS TO *DO IT*--



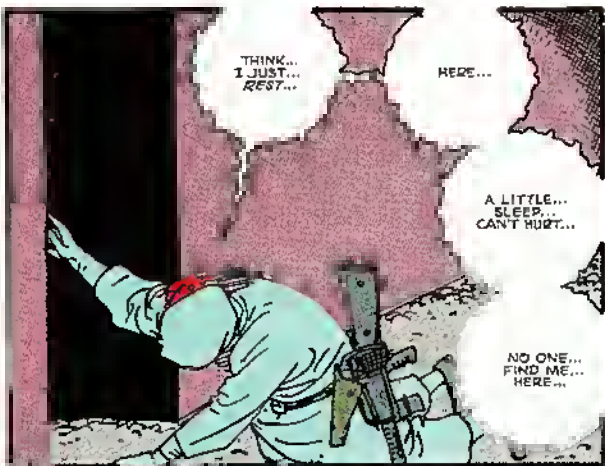
"--BEFORE THE LITTLE BUGGER DOES ANY MORE DAMAGE..."

OH...GOD...

IT HURTS... IT HURTS...

GOT TO... HIDE... GET SOME HELP...

BUT... SO TIRED... CAN... HARDLY STAND...

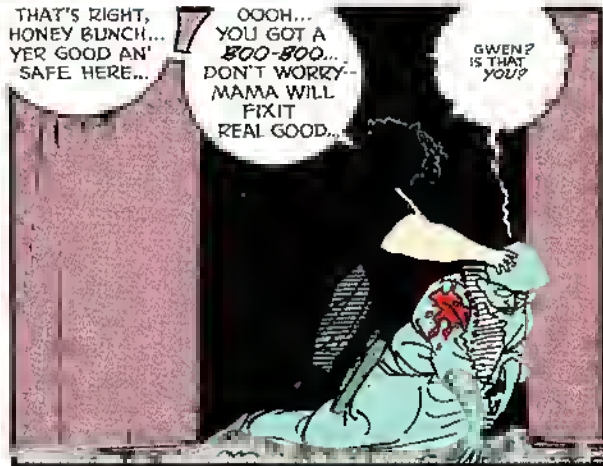


THINK... I JUST... REST...

HERE...

A LITTLE... SLEEP... CAN'T HURT...

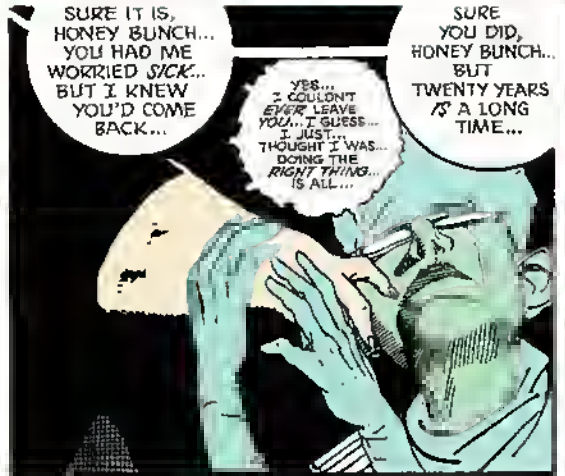
NO ONE... FIND ME... HERE...



THAT'S RIGHT, HONEY BUNCH... YER GOOD AN' SAFE HERE...

OOOH... YOU GOT A 800-800... DON'T WORRY-- MAMA WILL FIXIT REAL GOOD...

GWEN? IS THAT YOU?



SURE IT IS, HONEY BUNCH... YOU HAD ME WORRIED SICK... BUT I KNEW YOU'D COME BACK...

YES... I COULDN'T EVER LEAVE YOU... I GUESS... I JUST... THOUGHT I WAS... DOING THE RIGHT THING... IS ALL...

SURE YOU DID, HONEY BUNCH... BUT TWENTY YEARS IS A LONG TIME...



TWENTY--? BUT... GWEN... IT'S ONLY BEEN... A WEEK... MAYBE TWO...

...GWEN?

YOU CAN CALL ME WHATEVER YOU WANT, LOVER BOY... BUT ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS WHISTLE--



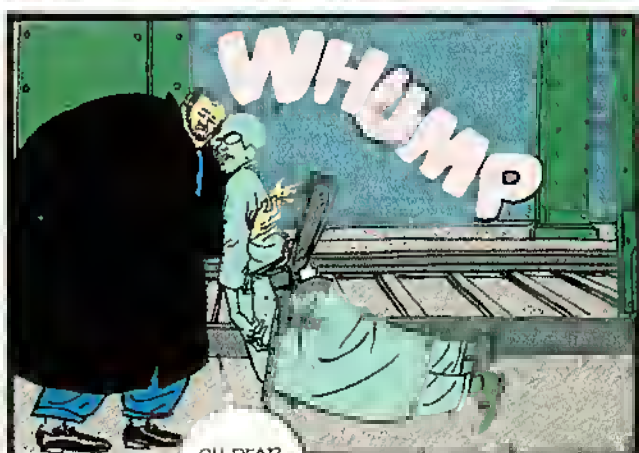
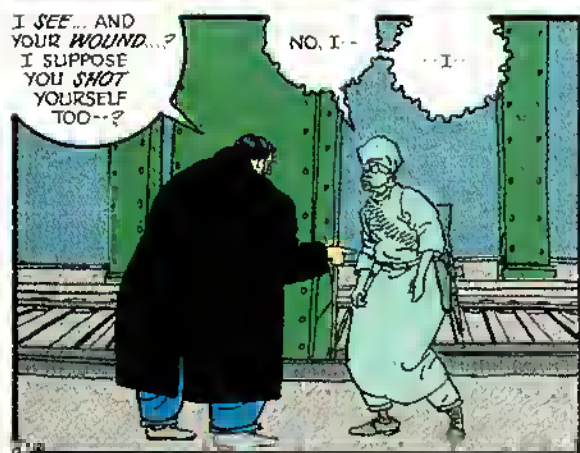
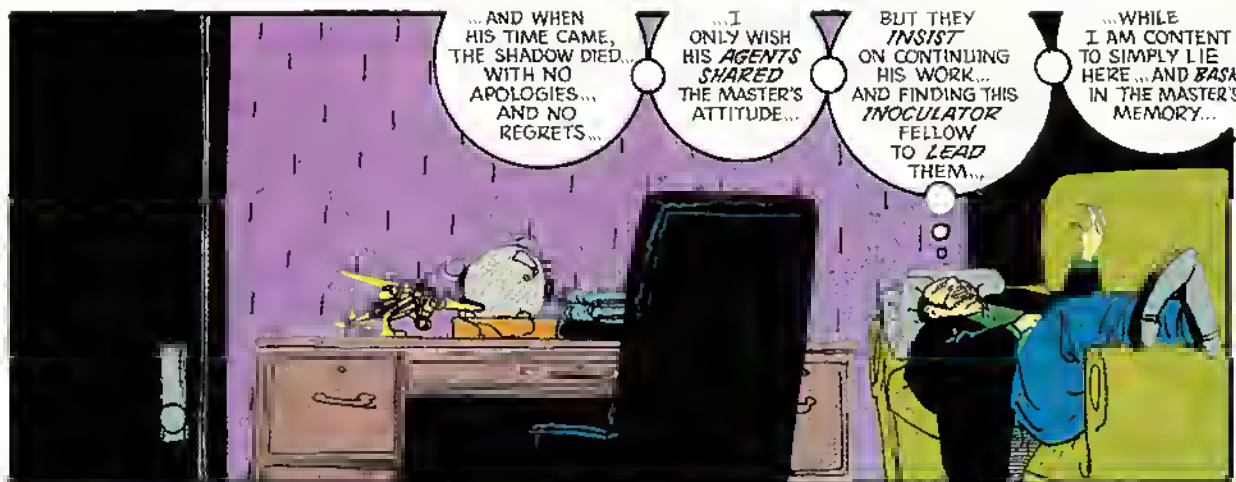
--AND I'LL BE HERE...

NO--!!



NOOOOOOW!!

HONEY BUNCH... DON'T... GO...

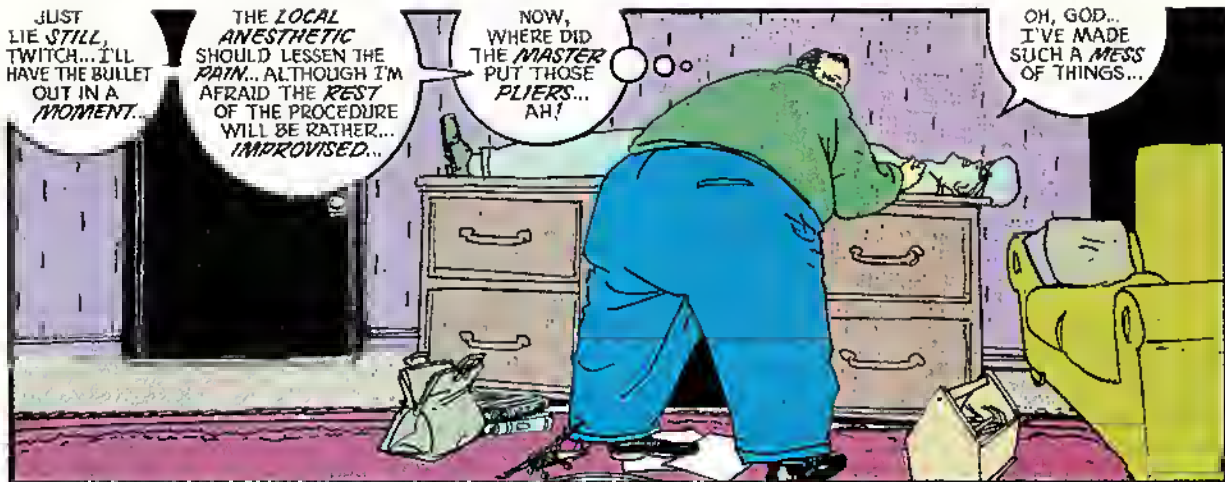


JUST
LIE STILL,
TWITCH... I'LL
HAVE THE BULLET
OUT IN A
MOMENT...

THE LOCAL
ANESTHETIC
SHOULD LESSEN THE
PAIN... ALTHOUGH I'M
AFRAID THE REST
OF THE PROCEDURE
WILL BE RATHER...
IMPROVISED...

NOW,
WHERE DID
THE MASTER
PUT THOSE
PLIERS...
AH!

OH, GOD...
I'VE MADE
SUCH A MESS
OF THINGS...



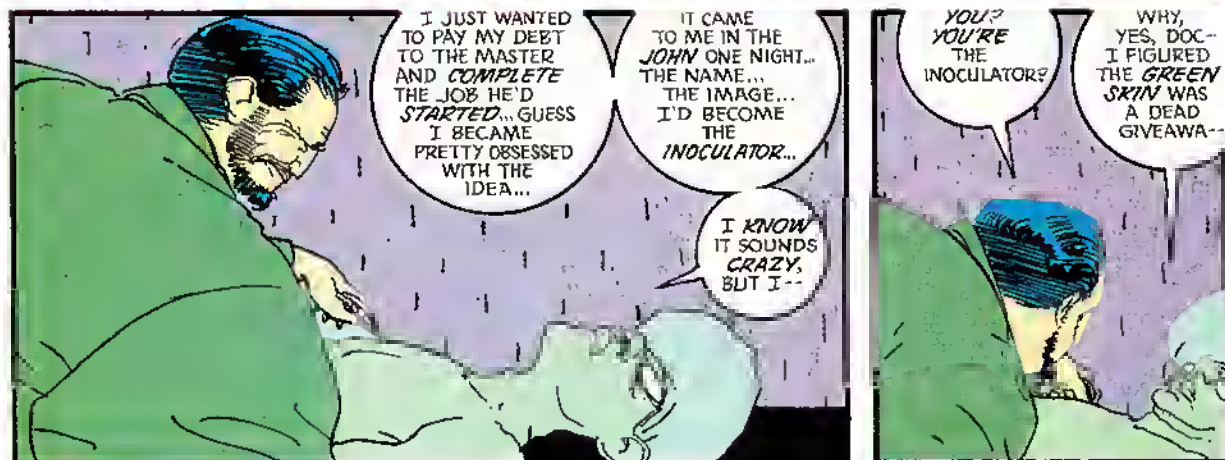
I JUST WANTED
TO PAY MY DEBT
TO THE MASTER
AND COMPLETE
THE JOB HE'D
STARTED... GUESS
I BECAME
PRETTY OBSESSED
WITH THE
IDEA...

IT CAME
TO ME IN THE
JOHN ONE NIGHT...
THE NAME...
THE IMAGE...
I'D BECOME
THE INOCULATOR...

I KNOW
IT SOUNDS
CRAZY,
BUT I--

YOU?
YOU'RE
THE
INOCULATOR?

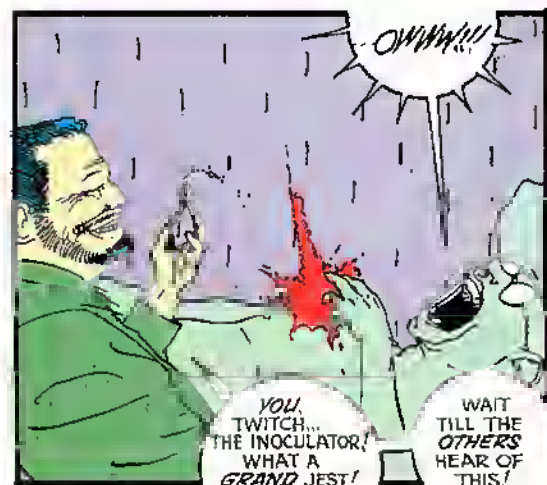
WHY,
YES, DOC--
I FIGURED
THE GREEN
SKIN WAS
A DEAD
GIVEAWAY--



OWWWW!!!

YOU,
TWITCH...
THE INOCULATOR!
WHAT A
GRAND JEST!

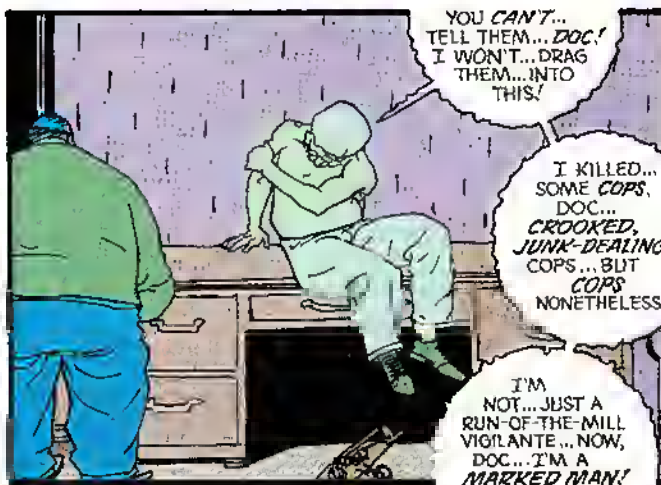
WAIT
TILL THE
OTHERS
HEAR OF
THIS!



YOU CAN'T...
TELL THEM... DOC!
I WON'T... DRAG
THEM... INTO
THIS!

I KILLED...
SOME COPS,
DOC...
CROOKED,
JUNK-DEALING
COPS... BUT
COPS
NONETHELESS!

I'M
NOT... JUST A
RUN-OF-THE-MILL
VIGILANTE... NOW,
DOC... I'M A
MARKED MAN!

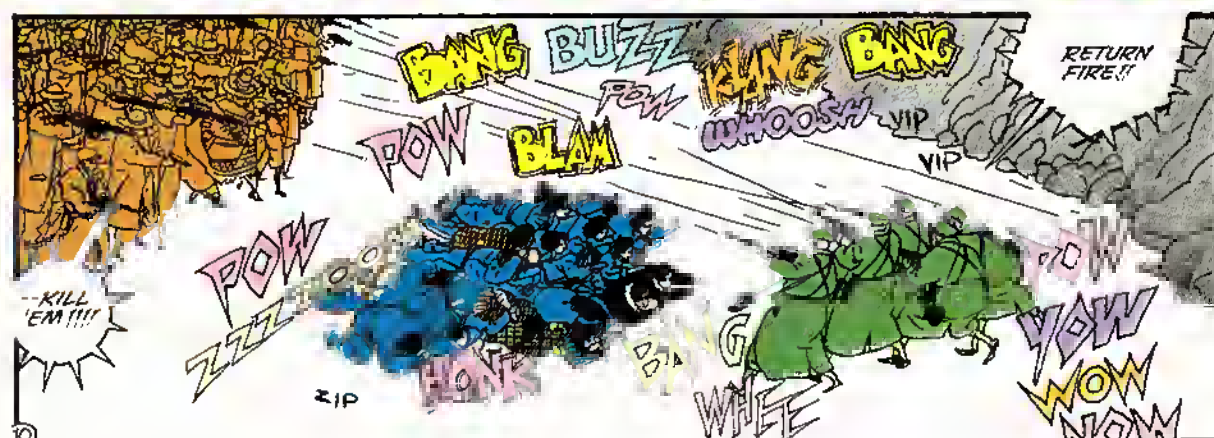
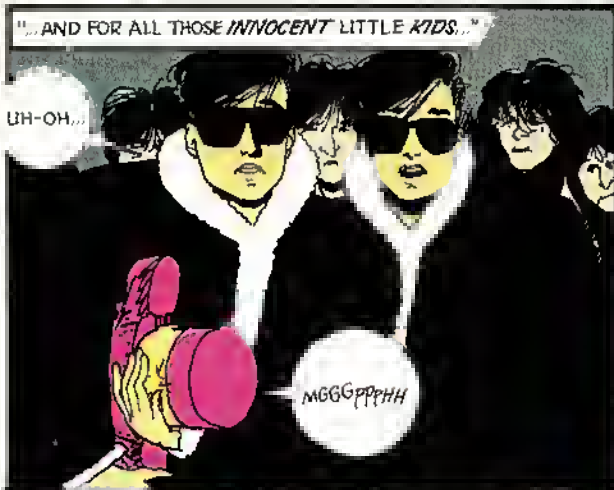


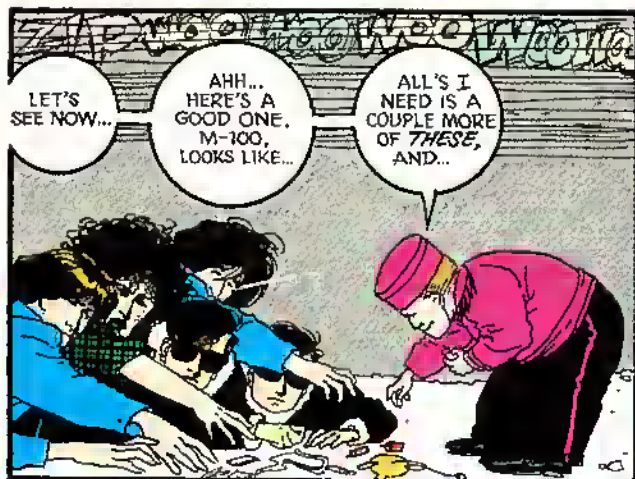
I DON'T
WANT TO BE
THE INOCULATOR
ANYMORE, DOC--
BUT I'VE GOT
NO CHOICE!
THOSE COPS ARE
KILLING KIDS...
MAKING A BUCK
OFF THEIR
SUFFERING...

THEY'RE
THE WORST
KIND OF SCUM
THERE IS... BUT
THEY'VE GOT
THE LAW ON
THEIR
SIDE!

I'VE GOT
TO GET BACK
ON MY FEET
AND
STOP THEM...
FOR MYSELF...
FOR THE
MASTER...



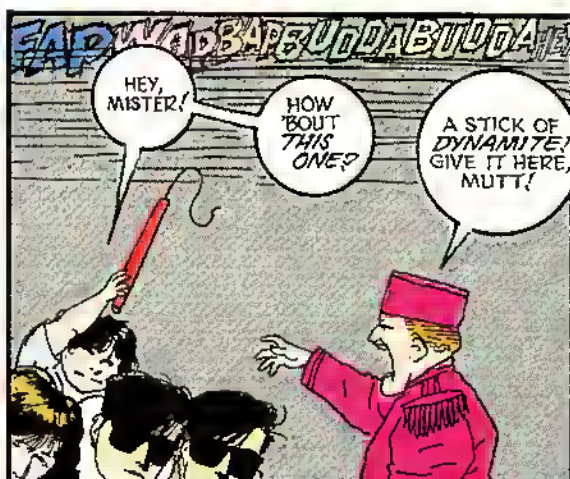




LET'S SEE NOW...

AHH... HERE'S A GOOD ONE, M-100, LOOKS LIKE...

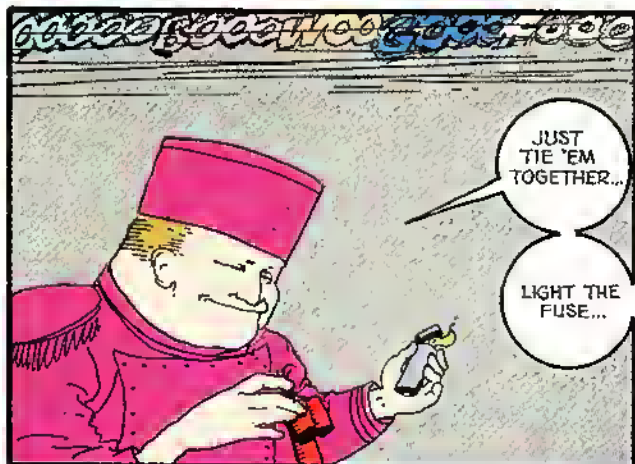
ALL'S I NEED IS A COUPLE MORE OF THESE, AND...



HEY, MISTER!

HOW 'BOUT THIS ONE?

A STICK OF DYNAMITE! GIVE IT HERE, MUTT!



JUST TIE 'EM TOGETHER...

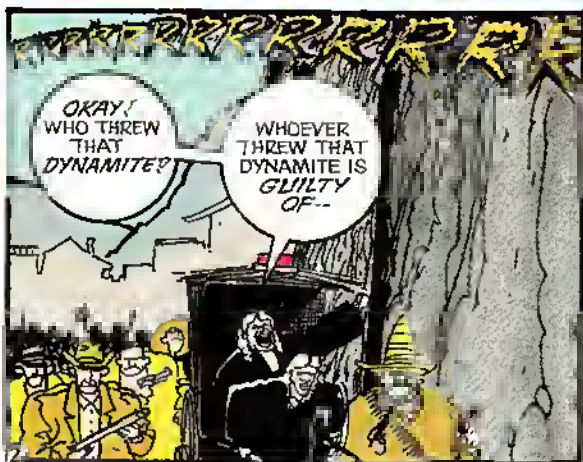
LIGHT THE FUSE...



GIVE IT A LITTLE STRATEGIC TOSS...

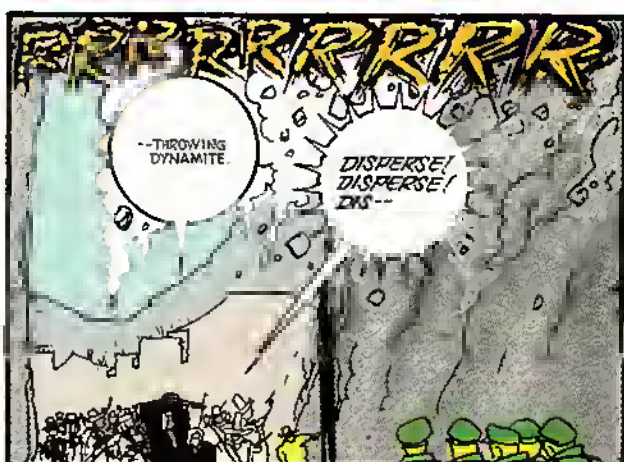
...AND...

BOOM!



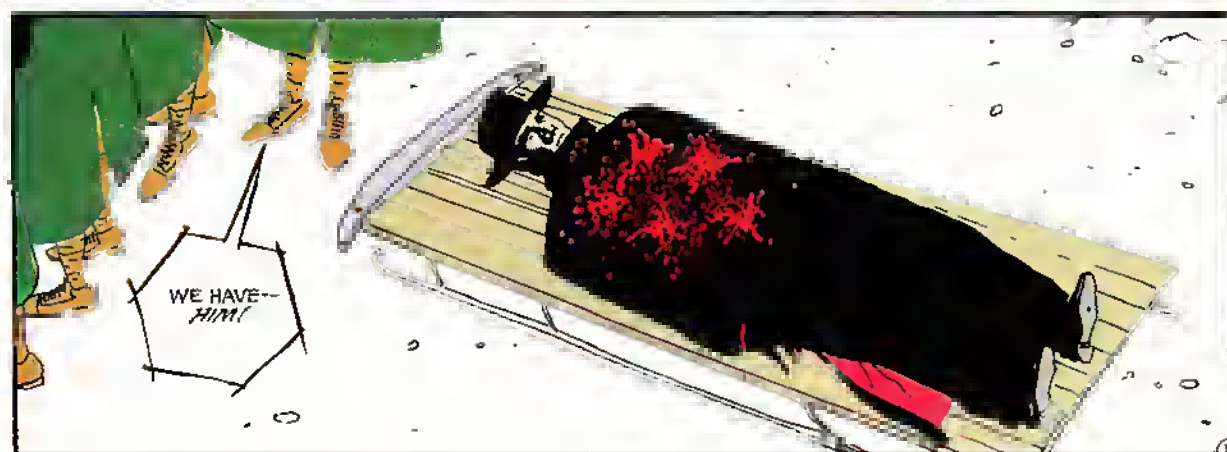
OKAY! WHO THREW THAT DYNAMITE?

WHOEVER THREW THAT DYNAMITE IS GUILTY OF--



--THROWING DYNAMITE

DISPERSE! DISPERSE! ZNS--



TRADE THE BODY
OF YING KO--
FOR A CHILD'S
TOY? Y-YOU
CANNOT!

I WILL!
WE CAN BRING IT
BACK TO BEIJING
WHERE
OUR SCIENTISTS
WILL
DISASSEMBLE IT
AND LEARN ITS
DESIGN!

WITH
THAT KNOWLEDGE,
WE CAN
PRODUCE THEM
FAR CHEAPER
THAN THE
AMERICANS!

BEFORE
LONG, WE
WILL BE
SELLING THE DOLLS
TO THEM!

BUT WHAT OF
THE LEGENDS?
THEY SAY YING
KO'S TERRIBLE
VENGEANCE
CAN STRIKE OUT
FROM BEYOND
THE GRAVE--

FORGET
THE LEGENDS!
IF THEY WERE
TRUE, THEN THEY
WOULD NOT BE
LEGENDS,
CORRECT?

I SUPPOSE...
BLIT--

NO BLITS!
THERE WILL
BE NO
VENGEANCE
FROM YING KO--
HE IS DEAD!
NOW--LET'S
MAKE A
DEAL!

EXCUSE US,
SIR... BUT
WE WERE
WONDERING...

WE ARE
SO HAPPY
TO SEE YOU!
THAT MOS--
THEY WERE
INSANE!!

YES! THEY
KIDNAPPED
OUR FATHER--
STOLE HIM
FROM OUR
HOTEL ROOM--
AND THEN
THREATENED
OUR VERY
LIVES...

YES, YES...
WE WILL
GET TO THAT...
BUT FIRST,
PERHAPS YOU
WOULD LIKE
TO ARRANGE
A TRADE--

TRADE?
BUT--WE HAVE
NOTHING
TO TRADE--WE
JUST WANT TO
FIND OUR
FATHER AND--

--FATHER???

CHANG!
IT'S FATHER!
COME
QUICKLY!!

HE-HE'S
HERE!

STILL
DEAD,
I SEE...

YES--
BUT IT'S
SO GOOD
TO SEE
HIM!

AND YOU CAN
KEEP HIM,
COMRADES--
IN EXCHANGE
FOR THE
FIGHTING
DOLL...

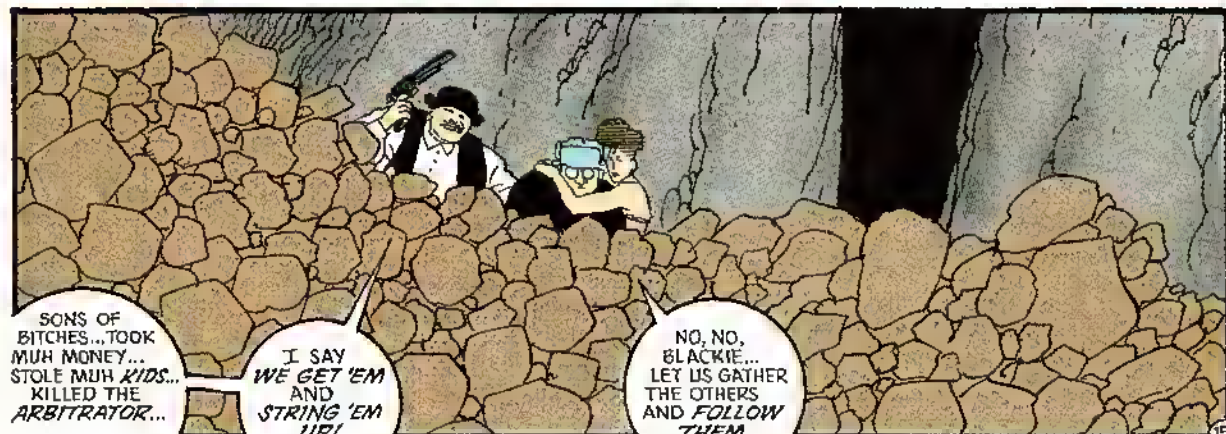
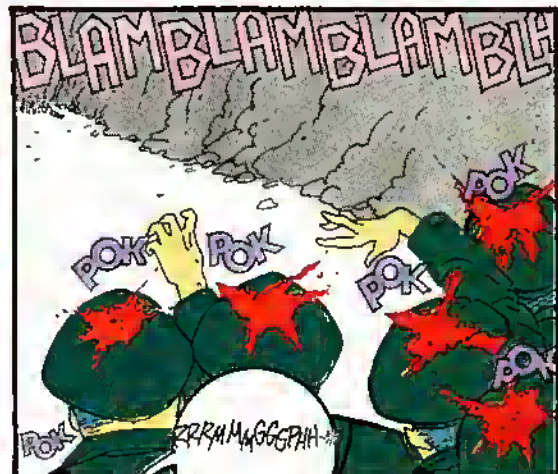
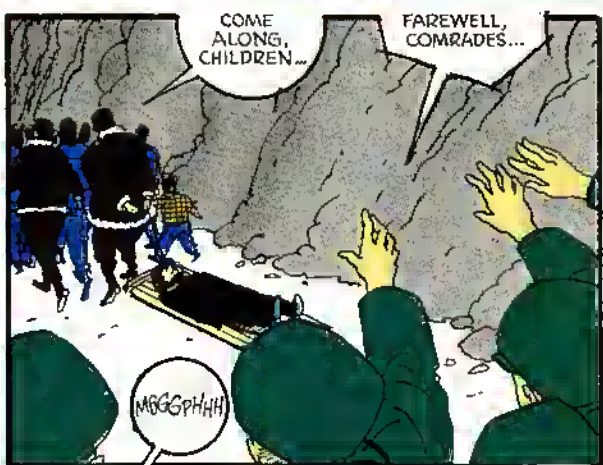
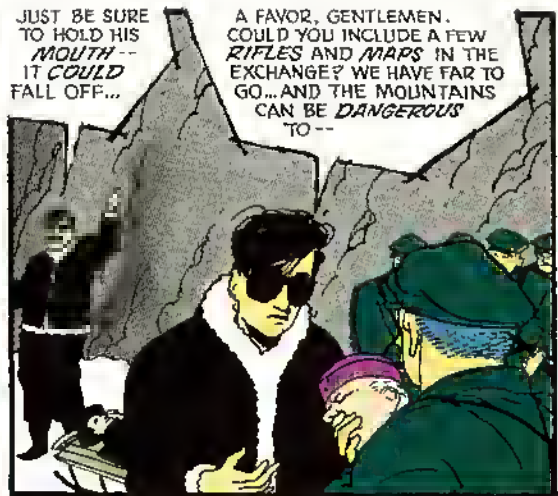
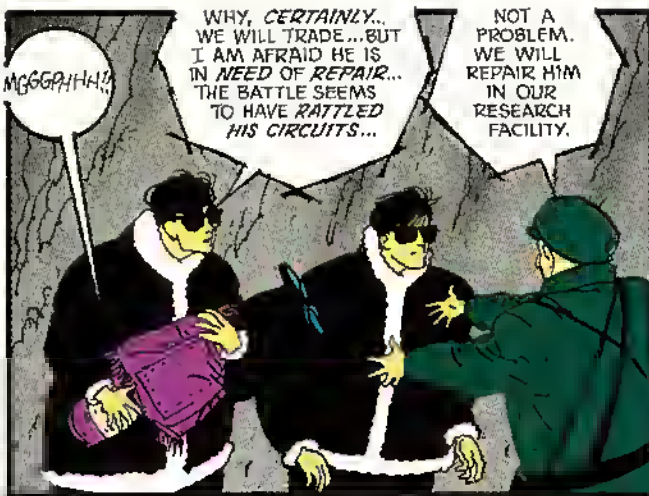
DOLL?
WHAT
DOLL?

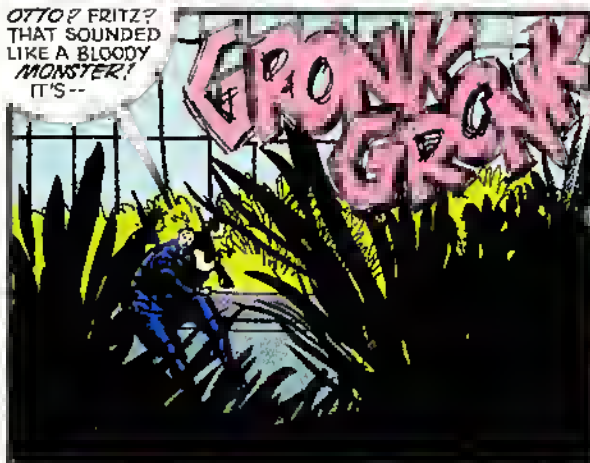
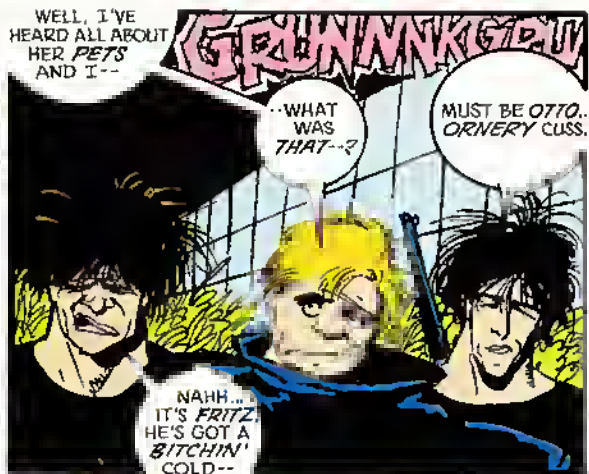
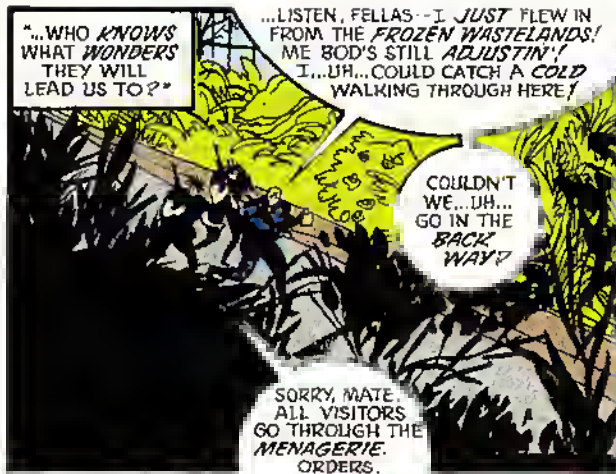
THAT
DOLL.

WHAT
THE HELL
ARE YOU GUYS
TALKIN'
ABOUT?

HEY!
QUIT LOOKIN'
AT ME
THAT WAY!

DON'T YOU
COME
ONE STEP
CLOSER
OR I'LL--





...RIGHT THROUGH THE MUSEUM, WHERE SHE'S GOT SOME OF HER FAVORITE--

SMELLS MORE LIKE A MORGUE IN HERE... I--

...HEY! ISN'T THAT--?

--PROBABLY, SHE'S GOT ALL THE GREATS... A TO Z... IF THEY NEVER BEEN BURIED PROPER, CHANCES ARE SHE'S GOT 'EM STUFFED AN' STANDIN'...

... 'CEPT THIS ONE

THE SHADOW

NOW, COME ON-- WE'RE RUNNIN' LATE...

YOU HAVE AN APPOINTMENT, I PRESUME... MADAME IS CURRENTLY--

YEAH, WE GOT AN APPOINTMENT-- AND MADAME'S GOING TO BE PISS'D IF SHE MISSES IT!

VERY WELL...

LET HER DISCONTENT BE ON YOUR HEADS...

DOCTOR... YOU! SHOULD'N'T HAVE... DONE THAT...

I WAS SO CLOSE... I SAW THE TUNNEL OF LIGHT... THEN, HIS FACE...

I-I ALMOST TOUCHED HIM...

INDEED, MADAME. WE SUCCEEDED IN BRINGING YOUR METABOLIC LEVELS TO A NEW LOW--MERE MICRONS AWAY FROM FLATLINE RESPONSE.

YOU WERE ABOUT TO PROCEED TO THE NEXT STAGE... BUT I WAS FORCED TO INTERRUPT YOUR SOJOURN...

WHAT?!

THERE'S A REASONABLE EXPLANATION FOR THIS, LUV...

WE HAD HIM,
ODESSA...
I HAD HIM
RIGHT IN MY
HANDS!

HIM?
YOU MEAN...
THE
SHADOW?

YEAH! BUT THEN THERE
WERE THESE CHINESE TROOPS...
THEY STARTED FIRING
ON US... AND THEY GOT
BILLY... AND DOLF...
AND JAKE...
AND...

WHERE
IS
HE?

WELL...
THEY GOT
HIM...
TOO...

YOU
LET
THEM-?

I-I DIDN'T
HAVE MUCH
CHOICE, LUV...
YOUR
CHOPPER BOYS
AIRLIFTED ME
OUT BY THE
SKIN O' ME
ARSE!

THERE ARE
WORSE
WAYS TO
DIE,
HOGAN...

MORE
EXCRUCIATINGLY
PAINFUL
WAYS...

BUT
IT WASN'T
A TOTAL
WASHOUT,
HONEST!

LOOK
AT
THIS!

HMMM...

OH, HOGAN...
A SHADOW
FINGER IT'S
LOVELY!
JUST WHAT I
WANTED!

IT'LL MAKE
THE DRILL TOUR
A
SMASHING
SUCCESS!

I
THOUGHT
YOU'D
LIKE IT,
LUV...

TELL ME,
HOGAN...
HIS BODY...
DID YOU...
TOUCH
IT...?

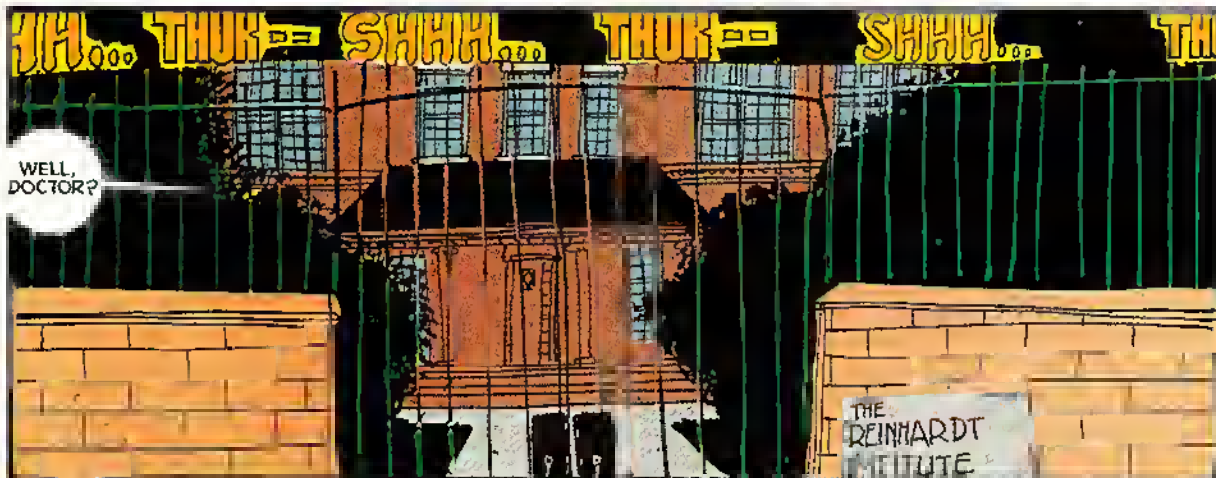
HAD IT
SLUNG OVER ME SHOULDER
FOR A COUPLE HOURS, LUV...
YEP, YOU COULD SAY ME 'N'
THE SHADOW BECAME PRETTY
CLOSE FOR A WHILE THERE...

WHAT DID IT
FEEL LIKE,
HOGAN...?
WAS IT-?

-COLD,
M'LUV...
VERY
COLD...

YESSS...
I
THOUGHT
SO.

I WANT
HIS BODY,
HOGAN.
GO BACK
AND GET IT
FOR ME.



WELL, DOCTOR?

THE REINHARDT INSTITUTE

I WARNED HIM! I STRESSED THAT THE LAST OPERATION WOULD STRAIN HIS INTERNAL ORGANS!

BUT HE INSISTED!

AND AS YOU BOTH KNOW... WHEN HE INSISTS, HE CANNOT BE DENIED!

...YOU JOIN HIM REAL QUICK.

I'M AWARE OF THAT, YOU MORON! WHY ELSE WOULD I BE HERE INSTEAD OF IN BED?!!

DOC... THE MONITORS... HE'S FADING...

THAT'S TRUE, DOCTOR... BUT WE HAVE OUR ORDERS. IF HE DIES...

LOOK, YOU TWO-- I KNOW THIS IS LIKE EXPLAINING GENETICS TO CHIMPANZEES, BUT TRY TO UNDERSTAND--

--WE'RE MOVING YOUR BOSS INTO THE OPERATION THEATRE TO UNDERGO EXPERIMENTAL SURGERY. I'VE CONTACTED AN ~~EX-11~~ DOCTOR WHO HAS MASTERED CERTAIN ~~TECHNIQUES~~

WHERE HE CAME FROM... WHAT HIS CREDENTIALS ARE, I DON'T KNOW. HE ARRIVED AT THE INSTITUTE SOME WEEKS AGO WITH AN ARTIFICIALLY PERFUSED CANINE...

...IN OTHER WORDS... HE MANAGED TO ISOLATE AND SUSTAIN A LIVING BREATHING ~~DOG~~ HEAD

OFFICIALLY, THE INSTITUTE WAS REPELLED BY HIS INHUMAN EXPERIMENTS... BUT NOW WE ARE INTERESTED.

IT'S OUR LAST CHANCE, GENTLEMEN...

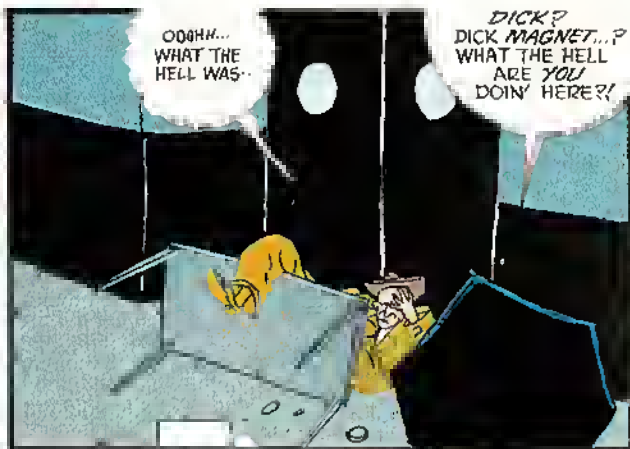
NOW, LET'S HURRY, SHALL WE--?

--BEFORE WE LOSE THAT, TOO--

--OOOFFF--

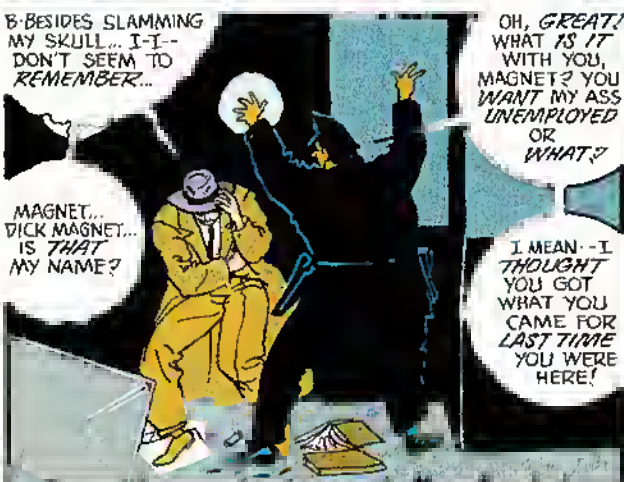


UGGG!



OOHHH...
WHAT THE
HELL WAS...

DICK?
DICK MAGNET...?
WHAT THE HELL
ARE YOU
DOIN' HERE?!



B-BESIDES SLAMMING
MY SKULL... I-I-
DON'T SEEM TO
REMEMBER...

MAGNET...
DICK MAGNET...
IS THAT
MY NAME?

OH, GREAT!
WHAT IS IT
WITH YOU,
MAGNET? YOU
WANT MY ASS
UNEMPLOYED
OR WHAT?

I MEAN--I
THOUGHT
YOU GOT
WHAT YOU
CAME FOR
LAST TIME
YOU WERE
HERE!



LISSEN, KIDDO... I GOT A
THUNDERING
HEADACHE...
AND YOU'RE NOT
HELPING ANY...

KIDDO...? HEY,
WHAT'S GOT INTO
YOU, MAGNET?
HOW'D YOU
GET IN HERE
ANYWAY?



HEY-- GIVE ME
A BREAK!
I CAN'T EVEN
REMEMBER
WHO I AM--
HOW'M I
SUPPOSED TO
REMEMBER HOW
I GOT HERE?!

MAN...
MUSTA BEEN
THAT WHACK
ON THE HEAD...
YOU GOT
AMNESIA OR
SOMETHIN'!



OKAY, LOOK--
YOUR NAME'S
DICK MAGNET...
YOU'RE A P.I....
YOU GOT AN OFFICE
OVER ON 42ND IN
TIMES SQUARE...

...ANY
OF THIS
RINGIN'
A
BELL?

JUST
CHIMES
RIGHT NOW...
BUT KEEP IT
COMING,
KIDDO...

"...THE PIECES ARE ALL STARTIN' TO FALL INTO PLACE..."

I'D BEEN ON THE CASE FOR THREE DAYS NOW AND COULDN'T RAISE A GHOST, LET ALONE THE GUY MY CLIENTS CALLED THE *INOCULATOR*.

A FEW LEADS HERE... A FEW THERE... A COUPLE STRANDS OF *DYED HAIR* FOUND AT SOME HIGH-TECH THINK TANK CALLED THE REINHARDT INSTITUTE... AND THEN... NOTHING.

A DEAD END.

I PONDERED MY HAIR AND THE FEW NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS OF THE INOCULATOR'S ANTI-CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES... THERE WAS NOTHING LEFT TO DO.

I NEEDED *HELP* ON THIS ONE... BUT MY SOMETIME ASSISTANT... A YOUNG TURK NAMED *RUPERT TOME*... WAS OFF ON A CASE OF HIS OWN.

I WAS FLYING SOLO... AND I'D JUST RUN OUT OF GAS.

I'D CALLED MY CLIENTS AND TOLD THEM TO STOP BY. IT WAS A SHORT ONE. I WAS GIVING UP.

I USUALLY *BURN* MY NOTES WHEN I CLOSE A CASE. THIS TIME I HAD NO NOTES TO BURN.

I LIT A CIGARETTE, INSTEAD... AND WAITED FOR--

KNOCK KNOCK

--THE KNOCK ON THE DOOR.

HOLD ON JUST A SECOND... BE RIGHT THERE...

MISTER MAGNET--?

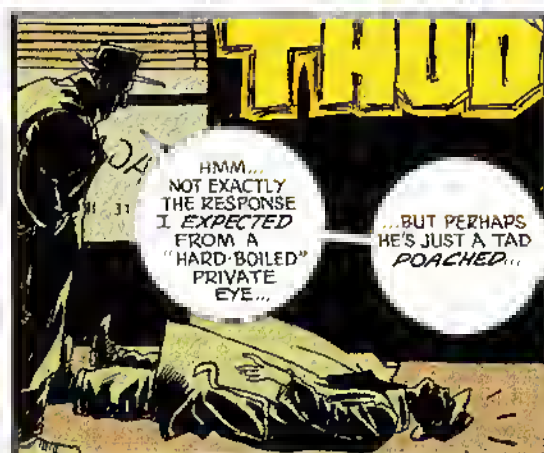
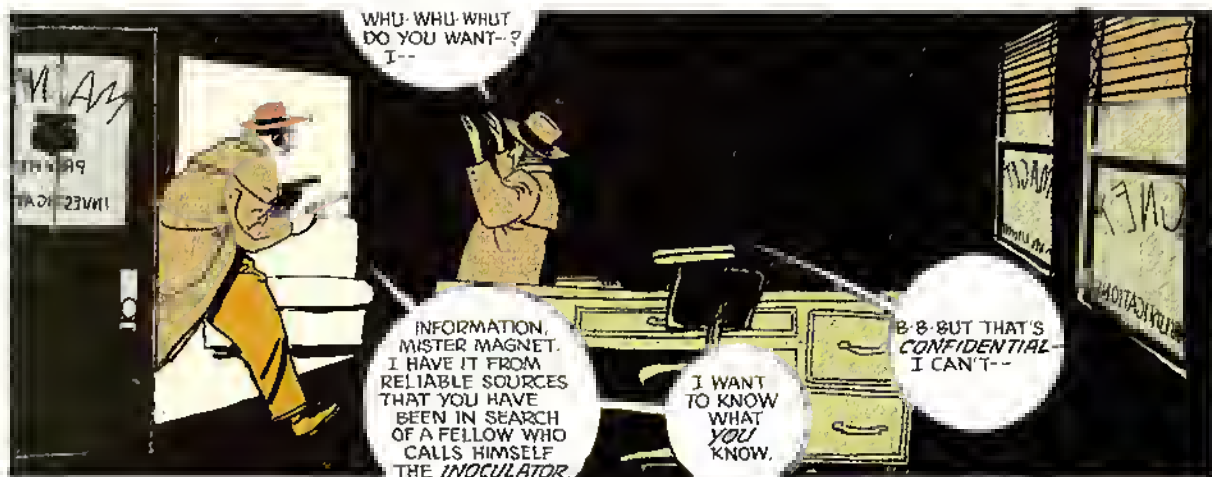
GUHH--!

YOU-- YOU'RE ME!!

AN AMAZING SIMULATION, ACTUALLY--

...BUT *THESE*, I ASSURE YOU--

--ARE VERY REAL!



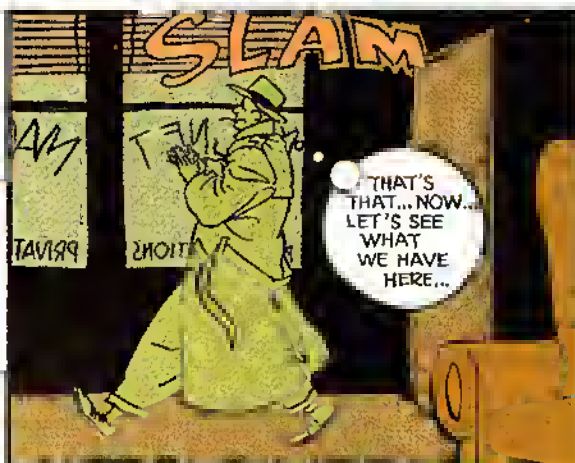
AH, WELL...HE'S NOT ABOUT TO TELL ME ANYTHING JUST NOW, BUT HE *SOUNDED* LIKE HE WAS *EXPECTING* COMPANY...PERHAPS SOME OF HIS *STAFF*...

...SO I'D BETTER KEEP THE FACE...

...AND DRAG HIM OUT OF SIGHT...



WITH A LITTLE LUCK... I CAN *ENGH* SEARCH THE PLACE... BEFORE MY *ENGH* GUESTS ARRIVE...

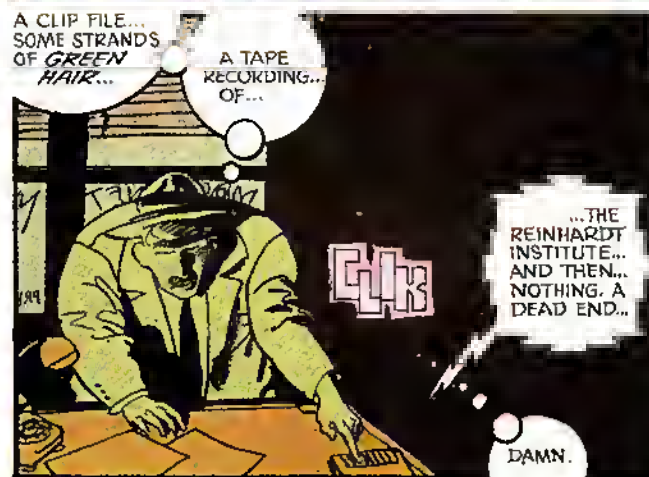


SLAM

THAT'S THAT...NOW... LET'S SEE WHAT WE HAVE HERE...

A CLIP FILE... SOME STRANDS OF *GREEN HAIR*...

A TAPE RECORDING... OF...



...THE REINHARDT INSTITUTE... AND THEN... NOTHING. A DEAD END...

DAMN.

I'M TELLING YOU, ELTON-- IF HE HASN'T COME UP WITH *SOMETHING* BY NOW, I'M NOT GIVING HIM A *RED CENT*!

COME ON, MAVIS-- HAVE SOME *PATIENCE*! IT CAN'T BE EASY TO FIND A GUY LIKE *HIM*!

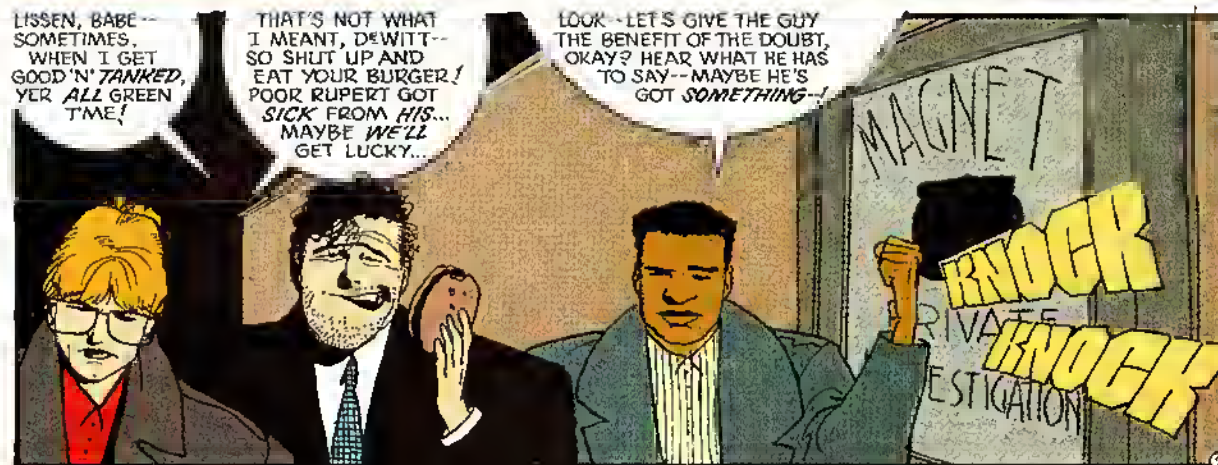
NOT EASY? FOR GOD SAKE-- THE GUY'S *GREEN*! HOW MANY *GREEN MEN* DO YOU KNOW...?



LISSEN, BABE-- SOMETIMES, WHEN I GET GOOD 'N' *TANKED*, YER ALL *GREEN TIME*!

THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT, DEWITT-- SO SHUT UP AND EAT YOUR BURGER! POOR RUPERT GOT *SICK* FROM *HIS*... MAYBE WE'LL GET LUCKY...

LOOK--LET'S GIVE THE GUY THE BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT, OKAY? HEAR WHAT HE HAS TO SAY--MAYBE HE'S GOT *SOMETHING*--!



MAGNET

KNOCK KNOCK

PRIVATE INVESTIGATION



HI!
COME ON
IN!

HELLO,
MAGNET...

HI,
DICK.

HOW'S IT
HANGIN',
PALLY?

MUST BE BECAUSE
YOU'VE GOT SOME
INFORMATION
FOR US ON THE
INOCULATOR,
RIGHT,
DICK?

WELL,
ACTUALLY...
NO...
I DON'T

I WAS...UHM...
HOPING *YOU*
COULD TELL *ME*
WHAT *YOU* HAVE
ON HIM
SO FAR...

FINE...JUST FINE!
I WAS JUST
MAKING SOME
COFFEE...
CARE FOR
SOME...?

MAGNET...
ARE YOU
OKAY?

NEVER BEEN
BETTER,
MY DEAR...
WHY DO YOU
ASK...?

NO REASON...
YOU JUST
SEEM SO...
CHIPPER...

US?? YOU WANT
TIPS FROM US??
LET ME GET THIS
STRAIGHT--*WE'RE*
SUPPOSED TO FIND
THE INOCULATOR
FOR YOU--AND
THEN *YOU*
BILL US FOR
YOUR
SERVICES??

LET ME TELL YOU
SOMETHING, *BUSTER*--
FOR WHAT YOU'RE
CHARGING US, I WOULDN'T
TELL YOU WHAT I *DO*
KNOW ABOUT
THIS GUY!

IT'S UP
FIND HIM
YOU *LOSE*
OUR RETAINER!
YOU WANT
THAT MONEY--
FIND HIM
YOUR-SELF!

PLEASE,
MA'AM--
NO NEED
TO GET SO--

AND WHAT'S WITH
THIS "MA'AM" CRAP?
IF YOU'RE TRYING TO
BUTTER ME--



UMM...
HOLD THAT
THOUGHT...

HELLO...?

WHY, YES...
I GUESS
THEY ARE...

YES...
UH-HUH...
CERTAINLY...
HOLD ON
A
MOMENT...



IT'S
FOR YOU,
I THINK.

FELLOW
NAMED
TAM.

KNOW HIM?



MAVIS!
THANK GOODNESS
I FOUND YOU!
I HAVE HAD
LORELEI SEARCHING
ACROSS THE CITY
FOR YOU!

LISTEN
CAREFULLY
TO ME
THERE IS
LITTLE TIME.

I HAVE
FOUND
TWITCH.

HE IS *SLEEPING*
NOW. I AM NOT
CERTAIN
FOR HOW MUCH
LONGER.

AS SOON
AS HE IS AWAKE
HE IS DETERMINED
TO RETURN
TO THE
STREETS.

MAVIS,
I HAVE
DIRE NEWS.
TWITCH
IS THE
INOCULATOR.

MAVIS--
WHAT--

LOOKS LIKE
SHE SEEN A
GHOST... OR
SOMETHIN'
WORST...

TWITCH...
HE'S... IN
THE OLD H.Q...
HE--

--HE'S THE
INOCULATOR...

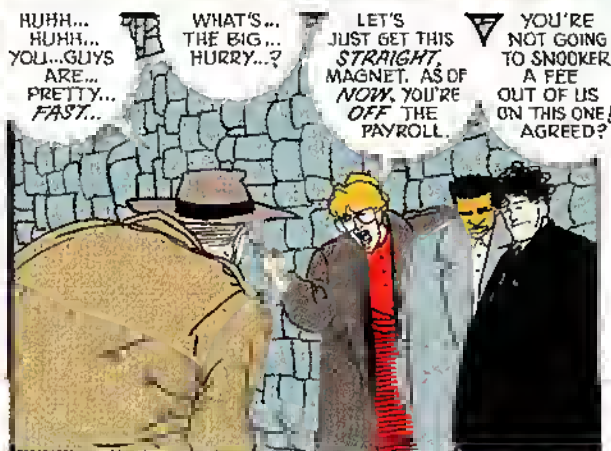
HELLO?

HELLO?

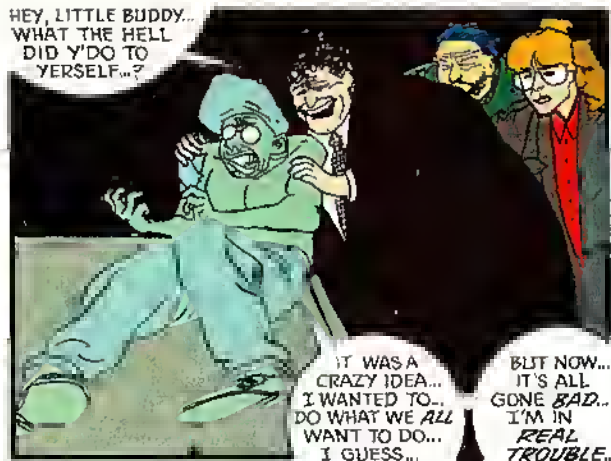
HERE
WE GO...
COFFEE FOR
EVERYONE...

NOTHING LIKE
A NICE, HOT
CUP OF COFFEE
TO DISCUSS ONE'S
DIFFERENCES...
GET THEM
OUT IN THE
OPEN AND...

HEY!!



HEY, LITTLE BUDDY...
WHAT THE HELL
DID Y'DO TO
YERSELF...?



IT WAS A
CRAZY IDEA...
I WANTED TO...
DO WHAT WE ALL
WANT TO DO...
I GUESS...

BUT NOW...
IT'S ALL
GONE BAD...
I'M IN
REAL
TROUBLE...

LOOK,
TWITCH--
WE WERE ALL
LOOKING FOR
THE INOCULATOR--
AND WE NEVER
KNEW YOU
WERE HIM!

WE
LIKED HIS
STYLE...AND
WE WANTED
HIM TO
LEAD US.

GUESS
THE FACT THAT
YOU'RE HIM
KIND OF
CHANGES
THINGS--

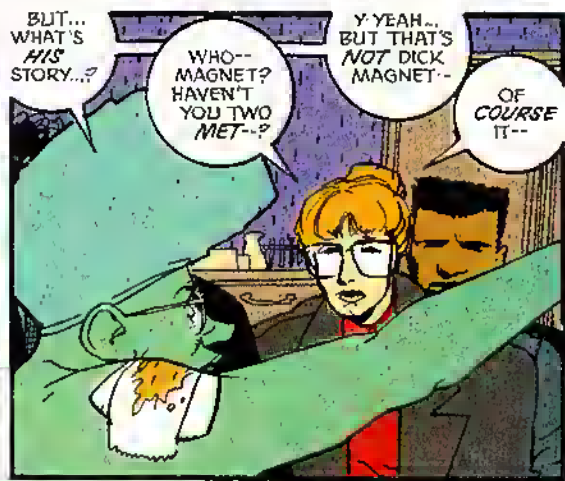


--BUT THAT
DOESN'T MEAN
WE WON'T
GET YOU OUT
OF A
JAM!

WE'VE
GOT TO STICK
TOGETHER--
COME TO
EACH OTHER
FOR
HELP--

-THAT'S
WHAT
FRIENDS
ARE
FOR!

YOU'RE RIGHT,
I SUPPOSE--SNPF--
AND I... REALLY
APPRECIATE YOUR
CONCERN...



BUT...
WHAT'S
HIS
STORY...?

WHO--
MAGNET?
HAVEN'T
YOU TWO
MET--?

Y-YEAH...
BUT THAT'S
NOT DICK
MAGNET--

OF
COURSE
IT--



I THOUGHT
THIS MIGHT BE
A CLEAN KILL...
BUT I'M AFRAID
I WAS
WRONG.

I'M
SORRY--
YOU'RE ALL
REALLY
VERY NICE
PEOPLE...

...BUT
I HAVE
MY
ORDERS...

NEXT: DEATH IN HIGH PLACES

SHADOW MANIA

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L-3366

Dear Sirs:

THE SHADOW was one of those books that I didn't even want to look at before because it was 'way out of my financial means, and I thought that I would spare myself the frustration. But recently, during a play rehearsal, a friend lent me his set of books. I felt strange after I had read it all. I realized how much I was missing. Frustration washed over me like a humongous wave.

Now I am the proud owner of my first SHADOW and it is definitely worth the investment (I dropped two other titles). I am enjoying every moment of it!

Kyle's art is some of the best I've seen around. His style neatly complements Andy's writing. These two gentlemen just continue to come up with quality reading. Keep the great work up!

It seems that there is this team-up debate going on in the letter column. Well, if it hasn't been resolved by now, here's my two cents' worth... an emphatic *No!* Leave the Shadow's world the way it is. It's doing just fine, thank you. There is sufficient team-up with the interaction between the diverse characters of the Shadow's agents.

I especially admire the handling of the characterization of the cast. Excellent.

Dean Alfaro

Dear Mr. Carlin:

Now that THE SHADOW has been published for just over a year (I've just collected #13 this week), I hope that you won't mind it if I take this opportunity to express my opinion of the series so far.

I was initially drawn to the series because of the art of Mr. Bill Sienkiewicz, who had just finished Epic's *Elektra* series and the *Daredevil* graphic novel for Marvel (both with Mr. Frank Miller) and was keen to see more of his unique artistry. To be honest, I wasn't familiar with the work of Mr. Andrew Helfer, but I wasn't disappointed by what I read. Mr. Sienkiewicz's manic style superbly complemented Mr. Helfer's story, and with the well-designed lettering captions and beautifully rendered covers, the whole work made a superb package.

And so it was with some dismay that I read that Mr. Sienkiewicz was to leave the series after the conclusion of "Shadows and Light," and Mr. Kyle Baker was to take over the art chores. Let me explain. The only work that I had

seen of Mr. Baker's was his adaptation of the movie "Howard the Duck" for Marvel, which I felt was very poor. (Although to be fair, the quality of the printing was appalling and was not entirely Mr. Baker's fault.) I was all prepared to cancel my order at my local comics shop. But wait... issue #8 looked good. Promising start. Great cover. Mr. Baker was indeed as good as you had said. For a young artist, faced with taking over such a high quality book from Mr. Sienkiewicz, the prospect must have been quite daunting (not a job I'd have looked forward to, I must admit), but Mr. Baker has more than managed to bring his own highly individual style, which is both horrifying and humorous, to the book, while still managing to retain a feeling of the world that Mr. Sienkiewicz had treated us to in issues #1-6.

I have enjoyed "The Seven Deadly Finns" even more than "Shadows and Light." What a marvelous array of characters; from the maniac with the fork to the thoroughly disgusting Edward Flax, all marvelously "fleshed out" by Mr. Baker. Mr. Helfer has excelled with his scripts (I love the little comic touches, like DeWitt letting down police car tires and how it reminds him of his school days), and it is good to know that Mr. Baker will draw #14. Is he staying on as the regular penciler, or is 27 pages a month a punishing workload to maintain?

The covers are well designed, giving an instant "brand look" to the comic so it stands out on the shelf, and the typography is well considered. More of Mr. Bruning's work, fresh from his success at giving WATCHMEN its own unique-looking covers? As for the violence in the stories—some of it is shocking (most notably the maniac with the fork), but it is all essential to the plot and does not bother me. Any less and the stories wouldn't work—any more and the book would resemble a "blood bath." The balance is about right.

And one last comment. Please—despite "fan boy" pleadings—no cross-overs! With two characters in a story, in my experience they more often than not cut the quality of a story in half, not double it. I refer to crossovers as CMEs (cynical marketing exercises) more suited to poorly plotted material such as MILLENNIUM and Marvel's *Secret Wars* as a device to boost sales and not appropriate to a book of this quality.

Any reader would be hard pressed to find fault with this book, and it is to my

eternal frustration that I did not buy the limited series by Mr. Howard Chaykin when it was recommended to me by Nostalgia and Comics, my local comics shop. My thanks to all concerned in creating THE SHADOW; it is without doubt the best series on sale today—and long may it remain so.

Andrew Moss

23 Glen Rise

Kings Heath

Birmingham B13 0EH

ENGLAND

P.S. I'm sorry this letter is so long, but one more thing has just occurred to me—will any of the creative team be going to UKCAC '88 in London in September? As I'm doing my degree thesis on the comic book business, I'd like to interview Messrs. Helfer and Baker, so it would be great if they could manage to attend.

It is our understanding that Mr. Kyle Baker will be attending the British comic convention in September as you mentioned, Mr. Andrew Moss. Messrs. Helfer, Ziuko, Lappan and Carlin, and Ms. Renee Witterstaetter are extremely jealous.

It just so happens that the design of the covers of the SHADOW is the handy work of Mr. Richard Bruning—thanks for spreading the credit where it's due, Mr. Andrew.

We know it doesn't seem possible, but we think you missed a Mister or two—doesn't Mr. DeWitt Perez sound better than just plain old DeWitt, or perhaps Mr. Edward Flax? Hmm, Mr. Moss? (Only kiddin'.)

Dear Mike, Renee, Andy, Kyle, and Co.:
As soon as I stop laughing my ass off, I'll let ya know what I thought of THE SHADOW #13: "Finnalet!"

Dorman Earl Arthur Larr

HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA

Lakeside Apts. #59

742 Coliseum Blvd. N.

Fort Wayne, IN 46805

And we think we all know how painful that can be—sorry, Dorman.

Dear Andy:

Wow. Wow, wow, wow, wow, wow. What a series. What a writer. What an artist. You guys, you certainly have something really special going on here.

First of all, the "Seven Deadly Finns" storyline was completely enjoyable.

shocking, inventive, and creative. Sure, all the Master's agents were great as usual (especially Mavis and, of course, Twitchkowitz), but you really outdid yourself with the supporting characters. Right from the first chapter, with the prong killer, you gave us one of the most twisted and wonderful personalities ever seen in comicdom. Then we met the Brothers Finn themselves, who were all ruthless and different enough to supply a goodly number of belly laughs and assorted chorles. *Then* you gave us the inmates, who were even better than the Finns, and turned out to be the real threat in their own silly, but weirdly creepy, way. That, my dear Mr. Helfer, was a great twist: to have the real villains be no threat at all and make the reader feel everything's in the bag, and then throw us a completely plausible but unexpected curve to heighten the suspense and get the most out of the material. Yea. Ya done good. Ya done real good. Oh, and before I forget, the ultimate supporting character was Ma Finn herself. (May she rest in peace.) You've really laid a big guilt trip on us there.

Finally, as for the story, we have the final Big Twist. The Shadow's dead! Whoooooah! No way! No way! But there must be some kind of way out of this, because the series (I presume) is continuing. Who will fill the Master's shoes? What will his funeral be like? And what's to become of Lamont Cranston? (God, I sound like one of those announcers at the end of the old serials: "Tune in next month for all the sordid details!") At any rate, I have complete faith in your storytelling skills. Mr. Helfer. You won't let me down.

And your colleague in all this madness, Mr. Kyle Baker, would never let me down either, would he? I may get lynched by all of the Sienkiewicz fans out there for saying this [myself included], but I am actually enjoying Kyle's work on the series more than Bill's. There seems to be more of a kind of subdued, bizarre recklessness to his work. As if what I just said makes any sense at all. Maybe it's just that Kyle's fresh approach is a nice escape from both Bill's methods and other comics artists in general. I'm hoping Kyle will be around for a long, long time.

Okay, I guess I've said my piece. I'd like to close by complimenting you with the knowledge that your book, and others at DC like **THE QUESTION**, **WASTELAND**, **HELLBLAZER**, and **JUSTICE LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL**, have brought me enthusiastically back to comics after a three-year, self-imposed exile. Your willingness to not compromise subject matter, artistry, and humor (black as it is in the **SHADOW**) for your audience compliments us as much as our fan mail compliments you. Thanks for treating us well.

Anthony Rapp
1009 Gael Drive
Joliet, IL 60435

Dear Mr. Carlin:

Twitch is alive! Twitch is alive! You people are virtual gods! ... Wait a sec ... The Shadow's dead? You *scum*!!

Me
631 Stella Drive
Decatur, IL 62526

/ do?

* * * * *

Dear Editors:

[illegible]

Okay, okay, the Shadow's dead.

I assume that the Preston Mayrock Jr. clone still survives at Dr. Tam's institute (I'm missing issues #3 and #4, so I'm not sure), and that he will become the next Shadow, although perhaps in body but not in mind.

But for heaven's sake, don't turn this into another series where the hero dies and another takes his place, and another, and another. (Grendel is the one that I have in mind.) It's a perfect way to wear out the shock value of any sort.

As for "resurrecting" the Shadow (by the above reason, or another brainstorm of some sort), I can probably forgive it once. The only such resurrection written into fiction that I have considered plausible is Frank Miller's *Elektra*. I'm sure, however, that Andy Helfer has the writing talent to make it work.

And the art—*fantastic!* Is that charcoal pencil Kyle uses for his textured shading? Whatever it is, it works great.

While I'm at it, here's to the always forgotten colorist whose shading does what inking cannot, Tom Ziuko. Keep it up.

THE SHADOW has a guaranteed reader for as long as this team stays on the series, and perhaps longer. Suggestions? The only one I have is that you give our Rastafarian cabbie, Percy Jennifah, status as one of the Shadow's servants, instead of just as an occasional chauffeur.

I was going to save up all of my comments and such before writing a letter to you, but the resurrection of the Shadow issue needed some chewing out. Okay. Once. But please don't do it again. Okay?

After all, the weed of such a crime bears bitter fruit...

Warren Allen
7 Kallbom Crescent
Whitecourt, AB
CANADA T0E 2L0

Nice guess about Preston Mayrock's clone, Warren—but no cigar. Try again if you like, but the Shadow's still dead.

Say, anyone out there notice that we've quietly put the crossover debate to rest for a while with this issue? Drop us a line and let us know what you think of the *Avenger's* appearances here in this and the...

Next issue: As the Avenger begins to make his mark among the Shadow's still-loyal operatives. That's SHADOW #1B on sale in 30 days, by Andrew Helfer and Kyle Baker!

—Mike Callin

